

October 27, 2003

**DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR BUSINESSES TO APPLY
FOR A LICENSE TO SELL LOTTERY TICKETS**

BISMARCK – Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem reminded businesses that the deadline for submitting applications to be licensed as a retailer to sell lottery tickets is **Friday, October 31st**. The applications have been available since September 30th. To date, about 200 applications have been received and a total of 500 to 1,000 applications are expected. "My office mailed out about 140 application packets and so far there have been 934 inquires on the license application on the Lottery Division's Internet web page," said Stenehjem. "Although the application is easy to complete, retailers should file their applications right away rather than wait until the deadline, in case they need certain information that is not readily available," he continued.

Almost any type of retail business in North Dakota may apply for a license, including non-profit organizations that have a retail business or conduct games of chance. The application contains several questions that will aid the North Dakota Lottery in selecting retailers for licensure. The application fees cover the license application, credit checks, and criminal history record checks required by law. Retailers will receive a commission of 5% of gross sales of lottery tickets. Although at least 325 licenses will be available, the North Dakota Lottery initially plans to select about 300 applicants. Successful retailers will be notified by December 31st.

Retailer license application packets can be downloaded directly from the Office of Attorney General's website at www.ag.state.nd.us, picked up from the Lottery Division on the 17th floor of the state capitol, or by calling 328-1574 (local call) or 1-800-326-9240. Applications must be postmarked by October 31, 2003.

#